

Message Text

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21/43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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P R 261321Z FEB 76 CORRECTED COPY FOR MCN

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8315

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

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EPT PASS OTHER AF AND NEA/AFN POSTS AS DESIRED

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OAU, XA

SUBJECT: OAU CM PROGRESSES SLOWLY ON SECOND DAY

REFS: A) ADDIS ABABA 2265, B) ADDIS ABABA 2280

SUMMARY: OAU CM PROGRESSES SLOWLY. AMIN REGRETS OTHER DUTIES PREVENT HIS ATTENDANCE. NEXT CM/SUMMIT SCHEDULED FOR MAURITIUS IN JUNE/JULY. FRANCE TO BE CONDEMNED OVER COMOROS "RECOLONIZATION." SOUTHERN AFRICA, ANGOLA AND ALC REPORTS TO BE DISCUSSED AND TFAI LEADERS HEARD. END SUMMARY.

1. CURRENT OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS (CM) MOVED AHEAD SLOWLY
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ON THE CM'S SECOND DAY. OAU SEC GEN ETEKI MBOUMOUA RECEIVED

A CABLE FROM OAU CHAIRMAN AMIN REGRETTING HIS INABILITY TO COME TO ADDIS AS SCHEDULED TO ADDRESS THE CM DUE TO "OTHER STATE DUTIES." TELEGRAM WELCOMED ANGOLAN DELEGATION TO OAU; PROMISED AMIN'S BEST EFFORTS TO SEEK INDUSTRIAL, TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ANGOLA, SAID HE WOULD URGE FNLA/UNITA TO COME TO AN UNDERSTANDING WITH MPLA "WHICH IT NOW RECOGNIZED BY OAU". AMIN ALSO URGED FULL SUPPORT TO LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, ASKED OAU MEMBER STATES TO PAY UP THEIR ARREARS AND CONTRIBUTE MORE RESOURCES TO THE LIBERATION FUND. HE CONCLUDED WITH PLEA TO OAU MEMBERS TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT PALESTINIANS ON THEIR JUST STRUGGLE FOR "THEIR LANDS NOW OCCUPIED BY ZIONISTS" AND ASKED OAU ARAB MEMBER STATES PARTICULARLY TO WORK AGAINST INTRA-ARAB QUARRELS WHICH HELP THE ZIONISTS.

2. CM DECIDED TO HOLD THE 27TH ORDINARY CM JUNE 24-29 AND 13TH SUMMIT JULY 2-5 IN PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS. THE PLENARY COMMITTEE CONTINUED OAU BUDGET DISCUSSIONS. THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE CONTINUED TO REVIEW APPLICATIONS FOR OBSERVER STATUS AND THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE DISCUSSED AT LENGTH THE PROBLEM OF MAYOTTE AND THE COMORO ISLANDS.

3. ACCORDING TO OAU'S ASST. SEC GEN FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS, PETER ONU, A DRAFTING COMMITTEE IS WORKING ON A FINAL MAYOTTE-COMOROS DRAFT WHICH WILL CALL FOR THE TOTAL CONDEMNATION OF FRANCE'S "RECOLONIALIZATION" OF AN INDEPENDENT AFRICAN STATE AND ITS "AGGRESSION" AGAINST A MEMBER OF THE OAU AND UNITED NATIONS. IT WAS THE UNANIMOUS FEELING OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE, HE SAID, THAT FRANCE'S BASIC MOTIVATION IN "ORGANIZING THE MASQUERADE" OF THE FEBRUARY MAYOTTE REFERENDUM WAS THE FUTURE ESTABLISHMENT OF FRENCH MILITARY BASES ON THE ISLAND. COMMENT: ACCORDING TO A FRENCH EMBASSY SOURCE, FRANCE LONG AGO INFORMED THE OAU IN WRITING THAT IT HAD ABSOLUTELY NO INTENTION OF ESTABLISHING A MILITARY OR NAVAL BASE ON MAYOTTE. END COMMENT.

4. ONU STATED THAT ON FEB. 26 THE POLCOM WILL DISCUSS THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, OAU ASSISTANCE TO ANGOLA AND THE REPORT OF THE AFRICAN LIBERATION COMMITTEE (ALC). DURING THE ALC REPORT DISCUSSION THE QUESTIONS OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DJIBOUTI AND THE WESTERN SAHARA ARE EXPECTED TO ARISE. NOTE: EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT A BRIEF, BUT HEATED, DEBATE OCCURRED MORNING OF FEB. 25 BETWEEN SOMALI AND ETHIOPIAN DELEGATES OVER DJIBOUTI ISSUE. THE SOMALI DELEGATE TRIED TO REPLY TO EPMG CHAIRMAN TEFERI BANTE'S OPENING REMARKS (CF. PARA 2 REF. A) RE DJIBOUTI. ETHIOPIAN DELEGATE RAISED POINT OF ORDER NOTING THAT DJIBOUTI QUESTION WAS SCHEDULED TO BE CONSIDERED UNDER THE ALC REPORT. SOMALI

DELEGATE ARGUED FOR RIGHT OF REPLY BUT WAS OVERRULED BY
POLCOM CHAIRMAN ONU.

5. ONU STATED THAT IT WAS LIKELY THAT CM WOULD ASK TFAI
COUNCIL PRESIDENT ALI AREF AND OPPOSITION PARTY LEADER
HASSAN GOULED, BOTH OF WHOM ARE IN ADDIS, TO ADDRESS IT
FEB. 26.

6. COMMENT: SO FAR, CM IS BUSINESS-LIKE SESSION WITH MOST
DELEGATES TRYING TO MINIMIZE FRICTION. LITTLE OR NOTOVERT
CRITICISM OF U.S. HAS BEEN VOICED THAT WE KNOW OF. ONLY
EXCEPTION WAS EXTRANEIOUS QUESTION POSED TO POLISARIO
"FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECRETARY" ADEL HAKIM IN A HILTON HOTEL
NEWS CONFERENCE BY ETHIOPIAN RADIO COMMENTATOR. COMMENTATOR
ASKED HAKIM ABOUT THE "MILITARY AID BY AMERICAN IMPERIAL-
ISTS TO MOROCCO" WHICH ALLOWED LATTER TO KILL INNOCENT
SAHARANS. HAKIN DODGED QUESTION, SAYING MILAID WAS OF
LITTLE BOTHER BECAUSE POLISARIO TROOPS HAD CAPTURED SO
MUCH EQUIPMENT IT WAS ALMOST LIKE A MILITARY AID PROGRAM
TO POLISARIO. BEYOND THAT, HAKIN AIRED STANDARD POLISARIO
LINE, ACCUSING SPAIN, MOROCCO AND MAURITANIA OF COLLBING
TO DEPRIVE SAHARANS OF THEIR RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION

HUMMEL

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